

MERIDIAN MONITOR

MERIDIAN LIBRARY SYSTEM

DECEMBER 2005/JANUARY 2006

Your System Board:

Joan Davis
Maxine Erpelding
Gail Irwin
Penny Jeffrey
Mary Koch
Laura Martinsen
Kristina Owen
Michelle Self
Stacy Vogel



Seasons Greetings!

The **Summer Reading Workshop** is Day 2 of the Youth Service Retreat so don't miss it! See the enclosed flyer.

Meridian Library System
Suite B
3519 Second Avenue
Kearney NE 68847

Phone: 800-657-2192

Phone: 308-234-2087

Fax: 308-234-4040

Email:

sosenga@frontiernet.net

Website: www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/Meridian

REMINDERS

The **Youth Service Grant Applications** are due by December 15th. The application form may be found at:
<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/Meridian/grant.pdf>

Registration and deposit for the **Literary Ireland Trip** next summer is due by January 31, 2006.

The trip flyer may be found at:
<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/meridian/ireland.pdf>

As we enter the holiday season of the year, it's time to reassess what we accomplished this year and make plans for the next. Need some suggestions?

- Read at least one professional journal a month
- Network with another community agency
- Provide a program for each of the following age groups:
children, teens, adults, seniors
- Join a professional organization
- Attend a regional or national conference
- Set up a weeding schedule and stick to it

It's easy to keep on doing the same things year after year...but are you really providing service that the community needs and wants? If you haven't done a strategic plan, including input from the community, then you might not be using your time and money to the best of your ability.

Your System Administrator is here to help with all of these things. I can come and help you begin a strategic plan, help get the weeding started or give programming suggestions. The system provides professional journals on a rotational basis, addresses for professional organizations and the Nebraska Library Commission provides continuing education grants for conferences.

Please feel free to call and take advantage of all the services we offer!

Happy Holidays, **Sharon**

BOOK OF THE MONTH

Flight of Passage by Rinker Buck

This was a book suggested on my "Book of the Day" calendar. It is the story of two boys, aged 15 and 17, who fly a Piper Cub from coast to coast in 1966. They rebuilt the plane themselves during the winter of 1965-6 and flew across the country over the 4th of July week. Flying an 85hp Piper through a 10,000+ foot Rocky Mountain pass was truly a feat!

Although the bulk of the book is about the flight and the problems, joys and people they meet, there is another level to this book. It is also about family relationships. Rinker Buck is the 15 year old. He is not yet old enough to have his pilot's license although he knows how to fly. He is the trip navigator. He is outgoing, athletic and an effortless student. His older brother Kernahan is introverted, geeky and a perfectionist. The two do not get along. This trip tests their relationship. It also tests the relationship of Kern and Rinker with their dominant father, a one-legged ex-Barnstormer who taught them to fly.

The final sentence of the introduction really sums up this book: "If he were any different a man, any different a father, my brother and I would never have taken on the things we did."

This is a book to be enjoyed by anyone who likes adventure but also those who like to delve into the difficulties of maintaining family relationships.



Cutting Machine Schedule

Machine one:

December: Open

January: Shelton Public Library

February: Sprouse Memorial Library, Callaway

March: Open

Machine two:

December: Open

January: Open

February: Open

March: Open

ALA Tips for Parents on Kids & the Internet

- Make time to learn about the Internet and how it works. Every computer with Internet access has search engines designed specifically for children that lead to sites selected especially for kids. It's important to become familiar with the Internet so you can use this medium with your children. Many schools and libraries offer classes that teach how to guide your children on the Internet.
- Set rules and instill values. Until children are taught how to use the Internet properly, which includes how to conduct a search, how to know the difference between an Internet pal and an unsavory stranger, how to protect private information, and so forth, it would be best if their Internet use were supervised by a responsible adult or guided by for-children Web pages. There are many common sense tips that can ensure children have a positive online experience:
- Children should be taught not to give personal information, such as their names and addresses, to strangers online as well as off. They must agree not to meet someone they meet online without a parent or guardian present. Teach your children to value privacy—theirs and yours.
- Teach your children values and guidelines to use in selecting what they read and view. Not every Web site is right for every child, anymore than every book in the library is suitable for every person. It's up to you to let your children know what subjects and Web sites are off limits and to explain why.
- Encourage your child to ask the librarian for help when seeking information on the Internet.
- For an example of how to set rules and values with your children, see GetNetWise's "Make an Internet Use Agreement with Your Child" (<http://www.getnetwise.org/tools/toolscontracts.php>).
- Check out "Especially for Children and their Parents" at <http://www.ala.org/oif/youngpeople/children>. This page includes links to online safety rules and suggestions and great sites for parents and kids.
- As the National Research Council pointed out in its 2002 report, "Youth, Pornography, and the Internet" (http://books.nap.edu/html/youth_internet/), "Swimming pools can be dangerous for children. To protect them, one can install locks, put up fences, and deploy pool alarms. All these measures are helpful, but by far the most important thing that one can do for one's children is to teach them to swim." Similarly, children taught to use the Internet wisely and effectively will be more capable of traversing the Internet than those relying solely on technology.



WEB SITES OF THE MONTH

"Christmas, Christmas, Christmas!": Christmas pages combine the Gospel story, traditions, and music of Christmas with stories and poems, activities, games, and recipes. It is a site for kids and their families." From Not Just for Kids!

<http://www.night.net/christmas/>

Urban Legends Reference Pages: Christmas:

The site offers over two dozen Christmas legends and myths, including Jesus' birth date, the number of wise men, the accepted meaning of the Immaculate Conception, the origin of the Yule log, the symbolism of candy canes, Christmas cards, Boxing Day, the Twelve Days of Christmas, and more, while discrediting some commonly accepted Christmas news stories. Do not miss the fruitcake page.

<http://www.snopes.com/holidays/christmas/christmas.asp#immac>

Christmas-Cookies.com: A database of nearly 400 Christmas cookie recipes. The site offers baking tips such as how to organize baking a large variety of cookies and how to store them, as well as links to sites that carry specialty baking supplies. Browsable and searchable.

<http://www.christmas-cookies.com/>

How We Celebrate Hanukkah: Information about Hanukkah from the Jewish Outreach Institute, covering the history and meaning of the holiday and how to celebrate, complete with blessings, songs, activities, recipes for traditional foods, the meaning of "gelt," and a virtual dreidel game. Chag sameach! (Happy holidays!)

<http://www.joi.org/celebrate/hanuk/>

Kwanzaa: A Celebration of Family, Community and Culture: "The Official Kwanzaa Web Site" focuses on the philosophy of Dr. Maulana Karenga, the African-American professor who created the holiday in 1966. It describes in detail the African roots of the holiday, the seven principles, and the seven basic symbols. Includes a

comprehensive guide for those celebrating Kwanzaa for the first time.

<http://officialkwanzaawebsite.org/>

Reading Rants! Out of the Ordinary Teen

Booklists: A site of annotated booklists crafted especially for teens on such topics as vampire fiction, drug-oriented novels, and stories about joining a band. Created and maintained by a librarian who cares deeply about teens and their reading tastes; she provides extensive annotations for the books, and a way for young adults to make their own suggestions.

<http://tln.lib.mi.us/~amutch/jen/>

Comic Books for Young Adults: This serves as an excellent first stop for librarians planning to develop comic book collections to serve teens at public libraries. Pithy answers to questions about the value of comic books to teen readers, collection development policies, recommended titles, and sample artwork from a wide variety of comic books can be found quickly. Includes an extensive, well-organized selection of Internet Resources .

<http://ublib.buffalo.edu/libraries/units/lml/comics/pages/>

Starting the Year with New Year's Resolutions:

Brief tips and techniques on the practice of making and keeping New Year's resolutions, including sticking to your resolutions, carefully wording your resolutions, and getting help.

<http://www.fridgedoor.info/winter-celebrations/new-years-resolutions.php>

Diets Guide: "This site has been constructed to help you find out the basic information on the more popular diet programs and to guide you forward so that you can discuss the potential dietary programs with your doctor." It offers background information and points to additional resources on several diet programs, including Weight Watchers, and the South Beach, Zone, and Atkins diets.

<http://www.dietsguide.com/>



Good Samaritan Healthy Living Center

WHAT'S UP at the *Community Health Library*

Library is FREE and open to the public Open 8:30-4:30 Monday–Friday



COMPUTERS:

- Computer access to reliable health information available in eight different languages and for different reading levels
- Click on different body areas in diagram to receive information regarding potential ailments
- Information found on web site may be e-mailed to your personal account & accessed for one year
- Educational computer games
- Trained, efficient staff to help you navigate the computer if assistance is needed
- Wireless internet access available

BOOKS:

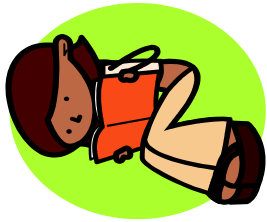
- Books available for checkout on a wide variety of health information, medical, dental and emotional, in several languages
- Current health-related magazines
- Cookbooks in different languages related to healthy and special diets
- Free pamphlets and fliers on health and lifestyle issues
- Children's corner with books related to issues such as death of close family member, parents' divorce, and health challenges

MEDIA:

- Media center with a variety of videos and DVDs to view in different languages
- Photocopier available



walk in with questions, walk out with confidence!



Come for a time of learning, laughter and leisure at the beautiful Leadership Center in Aurora, Nebraska.

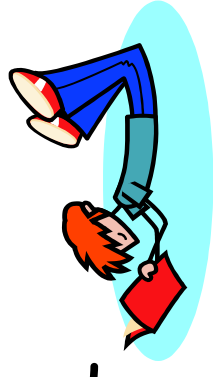
March 9, 2006

1:00 PM—8:00 PM

*6 NLC Continuing Education
Credit Units*

March 10, 2006

**Summer Reading
Program Workshop
9:00 AM—3:00 PM**
*5 NLC Continuing Education
Credit Units*



YOUTH SERVICES RETREAT

Day 1:

Spanish Storytimes: Karen Drevo and Marcy Retzlaff, Norfolk Public Library.

Featured in *Library Sparks*, this program will show you how to add Spanish language experiences to storytimes and lapsits. This is for the librarian/teacher who speaks little or no Spanish and wishes to spice up their children's programs with fingerplays, songs, and stories in English and Spanish.

Teen Programs that Work: Carol Eshleman, North Platte Public Library and Celine Stahlnecker, Grand Island Public Library. Teens are busy! The library is competing for their time, and library programming for this age group is an important factor in keeping them coming to the library. This program will discuss teen/young adult programming ideas that any library can implement to keep teens @ their library.

Model Pre-School Storytimes: Michelle Schmer, Sutton Public Schools
Beyond Harry Potter: Book Discussions for Grades 4-6: Sharon Osenga,
Meridian Library System. Please read Mr. Tucket by Gary Paulsen and come prepared to discuss.

Reception, Talk time, Game time, Free time

Day 2:

Summer Reading Program Workshop: Patti Sinclair, Collaborative Library Summer Program Coordinator. Bring your manual and craft kit.

Theme - Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales.

Young Adult Theme - Creature Feature

Cutting machines will be available both days.

Bring your own paper. Special papers will be available for sale.



REGISTRATION

REGISTRATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY FEBRUARY 28, 2006!

☐ **Step 1:** Fill out the information below:

Your Name _____

Library _____ City _____

Email _____

Phone (include area code) _____

☐ **Step 2:** Check ONE of the following options:

- _____ Day 1 only (3/9/06), \$20.00
- _____ Day 2 only (3/10/06), \$20.00
- _____ Both days (3/9-10/06), \$30.00

☐ **Step 3:** If you chose "both days" in Step 2 and intend to stay overnight, choose ONE of the following room options:

- _____ Private room, \$86
- _____ 2 people/room, \$69 per person

If you would like to choose your roommate, list name below; otherwise, roommates will be assigned.

☐ **Step 4:** Mail a copy of this registration form to:
Meridian Library System, 3519 2nd Avenue, Suite B,
Kearney, NE 68847-2911.

*Be sure to mail payment with your registration.
(Add Step 2 & Step 3 together for payment amount.)*

Registrations must be received by **February 28, 2006!**

HELPFUL INFORMATION

- The Leadership Institute is located on Hwy. 34 just 3/4 mile east of the Hwy. 14 & 34 junction. The address is 1609 E. Hwy. 34, Aurora.
- Day 1 begins at 1:00 PM. Room check-in is at 5:15 PM and dinner at 5:30 PM. If you're not staying overnight, you will be finished around 8:00 PM.
- Each guest room has two standard-size double beds. Bedding and towels are provided.
- Day 2 begins at 8:00 AM with breakfast for those that spent the night. The Summer Reading Program Workshop begins at 9:00 AM for everyone. (Don't forget your manual and craft kit!) Lunch will be served at noon and you should be on your way about 3:00 PM.
- Pool/hot-tub is open 24 hours for overnight guests.

2005-2006 Golden Sower Award Nominees

Grades K – 3

Ada, Alma Flor. *I Love Saturdays y Domingos*, illustrated by Elivia Savadier
Auch, Mary Jane & Herm. *Souperchicken*, illustrated by Mary Jane & Herm Auch
Bridges, Shirin Yim. *Ruby's Wish*, illustrated by Sophie Blackall
Cronin, Doreen. *Diary of a Worm*, illustrated by Harry Bliss
Fleming, Candace. *Boxes for Katje*, illustrated by Stacey Dressen-McQueen
Johnson, Doug. *Substitute Teacher Plans*, illustrated by Tammy Smith
Long, Melinda. *How I Became a Pirate*, illustrated by David Shannon
Reynolds, Peter H.. *The Dot*, illustrated by Peter H. Reynolds
Thomson, Sarah L. *Stars and Stripes: The Story of the American Flag*, illustrated by Bob Dacey and Debra Bandelin
Wilson, Karma. *Bear Snores On*, illustrated by Jane Chapman

Grades 4 – 6

Bauer, Marion Dane. *Runt*.
Butler, Dori Hillestad. *Sliding Into Home*.
Clements, Andrew. *A Week in the Woods*.
Codell, Esme Raji. *Sahara Special*.
Cooney, Doug. *The Beloved Dearly*.
Downer, Ann. *Hatching Magic*.
DuPrau, Jeanne. *The City of Ember*.
Kehret, Peg. *Escaping the Giant Wave*.
McCann, Michelle R. *Luba: The Angel of Bergen-Belsen*.
Nickerson, Sara. *How to Disappear Completely and Never Be Found*.

Young Adult

Atwater-Rhodes, Amelia. *Hawksong*.
Deuker, Carl. *High Heat*.
Hahn, Mary Downing. *Hear the Wind Blow*.
Hobbs, Will. *Jackie's Wild Seattle*.
Koertge, Ron. *Shakespeare Bats Cleanup*.
Konigsburg, E.L. *Outcasts of 19 Schuyler Place*.
Pattou, Edith. *East*.
Rodowsky, Colby. *Not Quite A Stranger*.
Schusterman, Neal. *Full Tilt*.
Woodruff, Elvira. *The Ravenmaster's Secret*.

Trustee Fact Sheets

This Trustee Fact Sheet Series was developed in response to the feedback from you and other local public library trustees in the 2004 Nebraska Public Library Trustee Survey completed in cooperation with Nebraska Library Commission, Regional Library Systems, and Nebraska Library Association. This series provides the trustee with general information about the topic; questions for board meeting discussion; and additional resources to refer for more information and/or assistance. Each year a variety of topics will be added. The fact sheets may be found at: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/trustees/factsheets/factsheetindex.html>



The Constitution of the United States of America: Analysis & Interpretation

Both the 2002 Edition (S. Document 108-17) & 2004 Supplement (S. Document 108-19) of The Constitution of the United States of America: Analysis & Interpretation are now available on GPO Access at <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/constitution/browse2002.html>. These documents are available in PDF format, and have been broken down into easily browse-able tables for viewing and downloading.

Prepared by the Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress, The Constitution of the United States of America: Analysis & Interpretation contains an annotated Constitution of the United States and analysis of cases decided by the Supreme Court of the United States as they relate to the Constitution. New, revised editions are published every ten years. Until a new full edition is published, cumulative supplements are released biennially to update previously printed information.



TEN BEST HEALTH WEB SITES

Roxanne Cox, McGoogan Library of Medicine

Medline Plus: www.medlineplus.gov

Lab Tests Online: www.labtestsonline.org

Cancer: www.cancer.gov

Alternative Medicine Foundation: www.amfoundation.org

Mayo Clinic: www.mayoclinic.com

Centers for Disease Control: www.cdc.gov

National Center for Health Statistics/Fast Stats:
www.cdc.gov/NCEH/fastats/Default.htm

NOAH: New York Online Access for Health:
www.noah-health.org

MEDEM: An Information Partnership of Over 45
Medical Societies: www.medem.com

Healthfinder: www.healthfinder.gov



2005 Edgar Awards

Grand Master: **Marcia Muller**

Best Novel: **California Girl** by T. Jefferson
Parker (William Morrow)

Best First Novel by an American Author: **Coun-
try of Origin** by Don Lee (W.W. Norton & Com-
pany)

Best Paperback Original: **The Confession** by
Domenic Stansberry (Hard Case Crime)

Best Critical/Biographical: **The New Annotated
Sherlock Holmes: The Complete Short Sto-
ries** edited by Leslie S. Klinger (W.W. Norton)

Best Fact Crime: **Conviction: Solving the Mox-
ley Murder: A Reporter and a Detective's
Twenty-Year Search for Justice** by Leonard
Levitt (Regan Books)

Best Young Adult: **In Darkness, Death** by
Dorothy & Thomas Hoobler (Philomel Books)

Best Juvenile: **Chasing Vermeer** by Blue Balliett
(Scholastic Press)



2005 RITA Award Winners

Best Traditional Romance

CHRISTMAS EVE MARRIAGE by Jessica Hart
(Harlequin)

Best Short Contemporary Series

MISS PRUITT'S PRIVATE LIFE by Barbara
McCauley (Silhouette)

Best Long Contemporary Series

JOHN RILEY'S GIRL by Inglath Cooper
(Harlequin)

Best Paranormal Romance

BLUE MOON by Lori Handeland (St. Martin's)

Best Inspirational Romance

GROUND TO BELIEVE by Shelley Bates
(Steeple Hill)

Best Romantic Novella

"Her Best Enemy" in NIGHT'S EDGE by Maggie
Shayne (Harlequin)

Best First Book

TIME OFF FOR GOOD BEHAVIOR by Lani
Diane Rich (Warner)

Best Regency Romance

A PASSIONATE ENDEAVOR by Sophie Nash
(Signet)

Best Short Historical Romance

A WANTED MAN by Susan Kay Law (Avon)

Best Long Historical Romance

SHADOWHEART by Laura Kinsale (Berkley)

Best Romantic Suspense

I'M WATCHING YOU by Karen Rose (Warner)

Best Contemporary Single Title

BET ME by Jennifer Crusie (St. Martin's Press)

Novel with Strong Romantic Elements

A.K.A. GODDESS by Evelyn Vaughn

January 24
9:30-3:30

\$15/ 6 CE
Lunch included

January 26
9:30-3:30

North Platte Community College
North Campus, Room 200
1101 Halligan Drive
North Platte, NE 69101

Hastings College
Perkins Library, L206
705 East 7th Street
Hastings, NE 68901

Take Exit 177 from 1-80. Go North to first stop light. Turn right. Turn right again at first road, Halligan Drive, which is a frontage road along the interstate. Follow Halligan Drive east about 1/2 mile until you arrive at North Platte Community College. The class is in the main building right inside the front door.



Grant Writing/Tax Info Workshops

Pam Scott, Nebraska Library Commission, will present and highlight:

- Tips for writing a successful grant
- Research information to help support your grant project application
- Hands on grant application exercise in class (step-by-step)
- Grant and other fund resources

If you have a project in mind, you can fill out the paperwork at the workshop.

Ruth Karlsson, Nebraska Department of Revenue, will be presenting tax information pertaining to libraries, including a question and answer session.

Grant Writing Workshop Registration Form

NAME(S) _____

LIBRARY _____

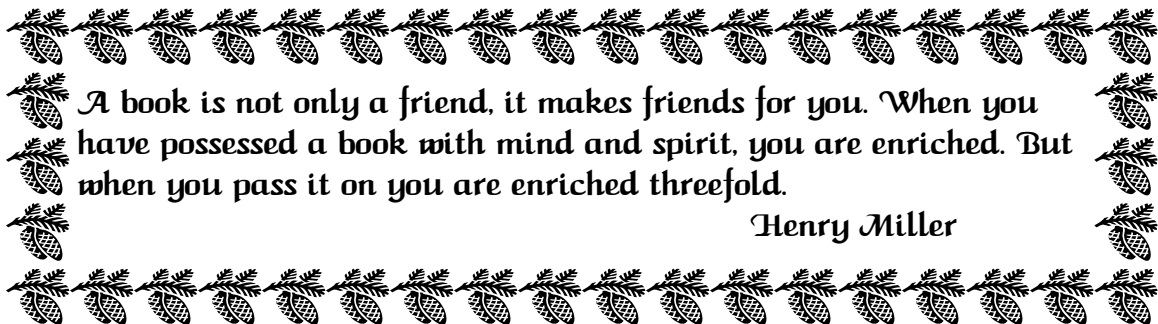
Please check one: ____ Jan. 24 North Platte ____ Jan. 26 Hastings College

Please enclose registration fee of \$15 per person and send by **Wednesday, January 18, 2006** to Republican Valley Library System, 2727 W. 2nd. St #233, Hastings, NE 68901

MERIDIAN LIBRARY SYSTEM

3519 Second Avenue, Suite B
Kearney NE 68847-2911

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